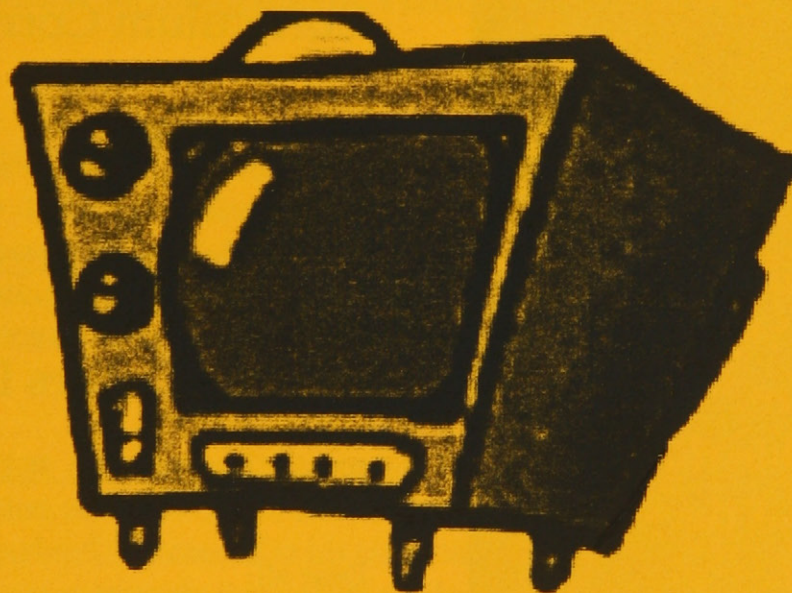
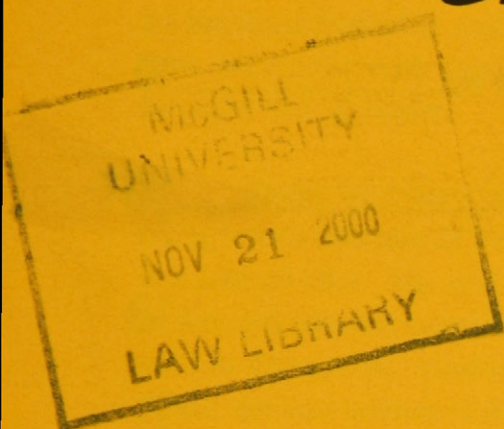


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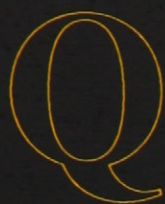
*It seems so good on
the big screen.*



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Dear all,

Welcome aboard to Grant.

I love my little Herbie, which is what I named my laptop
while typing my notes while watching WKRP and the big
Herbie / little Herbie episode. The best show ever.

So I think that I have adjusted to becoming what I once
mocked - specifically a laptop user. Not only am I taking
more notes but I can play free cell when I get bored.

One more issue: CHRISTMAS - what to buy for cheap and
in minimal amounts of time. Help us out with the last issue
please please please.

Lawna

Witness for the Prosecution

an inside scoop on films to enjoy November's inevitable procrastination

Grant McIntyre, Law II

As possibly the only student here with an undergrad degree in Film, I am often asked what my favourite films are. However, I have immense difficulties in narrowing the field down to a couple of shows. As a category, Law Films are a little easier however, so here's a few flicks to pass time better spent in the library (but far easier to take).

1. **Rashoman** Akira Kurosawa's 1950 masterpiece is not strictly a courtroom drama. But it delves into the idea of differing perspectives from witnesses. Four different witnesses (including the dead victim through a medium) recount a tale of in samurai culture in Japan. The story of a rape and a murder is so intricately divergent depending on the storyteller that an incomprehensible and utterly fascinating narrative snares the viewer. The flawless direction and acting by the entire cast, especially with Japanese actors Toshirô Mifune and Takashi Shimura, make Rashoman the most influential film ever to come out of Japan.

2. **Paths of Glory** Well before A Clockwork Orange, Dr. Strangelove, and 2001 Stanley Kubrick started his war trilogy with this tale of Judicial Murder in France during World War One. Kirk Douglas, in a wrenching performance, stars as Colonel Dax. He, and his company, are ordered to attack over the trenches in an impossible manoeuvre that a General orders out of basic stupidity. When the assault fails, as was inevitable, the General, Adolphe Menjou, disgusted by what he sees as cowardice, randomly chooses three men to be tried on a capital charge as representatives of the whole company. While the war scenes of the Western Front ignited Kubrick's career, the trial is the pivotal and most exasperating courtroom battle ever filmed.

3. **A Man for All Seasons** Fred Zinnemann's 1966 Best Picture Oscar winner tells the tale of Sir Thomas More (played by one of the finest actors of all time, in my opinion, Paul Scofield) and King Henry VIII. When the King rejects the Roman Catholic Church that denies him a divorce and establishes his own church in its place, Sir Thomas More is left in quite a quandary. More's mastery of legal manoeuvres and his attempt to stand up for his principles in a time of an execution-happy royal is fascinating due to the crisp and energetic writing of Robert Bolt. In adapting his own play for the screen, Bolt's dialogue demonstrates More's incredible intellect and presence up to the final spoken words before the screen fades to black.

4. **The People vs. Larry Flynt** As an avowed libertarian, I am perhaps a little biased in my appreciation of this film. However, Milos Forman's direction of an incredible story of how a peddler of smut pornography (created as a reaction to the all too high-class nature of Playboy!) succeeded in his claim that he had the right to publish his magazine. A fascinating film as it evokes empathy for a man seemingly impossible to like and has a strung-out Courtney Love to boot! Isaacman, Flynt's lawyer, sums the film up with, "We don't need to like what Larry Flynt does, but we should like and appreciate the fact that we have the right to make that decision on our own, and that's what makes our society great. We have the right to accept or reject the offer on hand. We may well reject it but we and we alone need to have the choice made available to us. If that right is taken away, then we wither away as a people and our individuality is nullified"

5. **Witness for the Prosecution** Comedy genius Billy Wilder takes on serious drama in this 1957 production with a cast of actors at the pinnacle of their career: Charles Laughton, Tyrone Power, and Marlene Dietrich star in this bewildering case of murder, sexual deception, greed, and betrayal. Power hires Laughton as his lawyer to defend him against a charge of murdering a little old lady for her money. Laughton, plagued by a heart condition and an ever-doting nurse (played by his wife and former Bride of Frankenstein, Elsa Lancaster), takes on the case and is thrust into a labyrinth of lies. Dietrich is Power's wife, a war bride with an icy disposition and a terrible secret. Witness has it all: a brilliant script, mesmerising pace, a few twists and turns, and a cast second to none.

more film fun on next page

le 7 novembre 2000

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6. **The Passion of Joan of Arc** From the transcripts of the trial and execution of Joan of Arc, Carl Theodore Dreyer directs this claustrophobic and mesmerising courtroom drama. The sets by German Expressionist master Hermann Warm are uncanny while the performance by Renée Falconetti, in her only screen appearance, is still considered by many critics to be the best filmed performance ever. The gut-wrenching detail in her expressions has to be seen to be appreciated. Dreyer's masterpiece was destroyed thought lost forever when it was destroyed in a fire, but in 1981, Dreyer's original cut were discovered in a broom closet of a mental institution in Oslo, Norway. This 1928 film is perhaps Dreyer's most audience pleasing film. He is renowned for his obsession with detail and silences speaking more than dialogue. However, with Joan, Dreyer lets loose. Each frame is a stunning photographic wonder, and is by far the most amazing silent film ever produced.

7. **To Kill a Mockingbird** The film adaptation of Harper Lee's Pulitzer Price winning novel has always been a favourite of mine since the book riddled me with emotion when I first read it. It also introduced me to Gregory Peck. As Atticus Finch, Peck is given a tour-de-force role that he squeezes for every ounce. His performance is understated in a narrative of explosive issues of rape, racism, and rearing. The trial is, as it is often used as, a microcosm for the American South. But, the trial is not the most important aspect of the story on its own. The terror and timidity of Boo Radley (Robert Duvall in his first role) and the innocence of Scout make by far a greater impression than the injustices of justice. As Atticus tells his daughter Scout, "If you just learn a single trick, Scout, you'll get along a lot better with all kinds of folks. You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view...Until you climb inside of his skin and walk around in it."

8. **Inherit the Wind** Perhaps the most renowned trial in American history is Scopes. This adaptation of the trial is a marvellous examination of conflict between law, religion, morality, history, ideas, idealism, and justice. Within the context of the trial, a battle of ideas and words ensues. The defence was conducted by the famed trial lawyer Clarence Darrow and the prosecutor was statesman William Jennings Bryan. A battle between two impressive minds is adequately taken up by the screenwriters. The presence of three of the finest actors in American history, Spencer Tracy, Frederic March, and Gene Kelly, only serve to heighten this film's greatness. To law students however, *Inherit the Wind's* greatest interest comes from the way in which procedure apparently obstructs justice and the way in which the truth is not always relevant.

9. **My Cousin Vinny** I've definitely always had a soft spot for this flick. I came across it by accident one Saturday afternoon. After having originally dismissed it as mindless drivel, I sat down to procrastinate in front of the tele and found myself laughing hysterically. A tale of a couple of morons on trial for murder after a typical farcical misunderstanding brings Joe Pesci to the rescue. The film moves from initial stereotyping of the characters into a deep involvement. The old-angry judge, the first-time lawyer, the evil-tough-as-nails sheriff, the Brooklyn-talking girlfriend all take on amazing depths of humanity and personality as the film progresses. Pesci is remarkable, but Marisa Tomei's performance is an example of perfect comedic timing and delivery.

10. **The Trial** The unfinished novel by Kafka comes to the screen starring everybody's favourite psycho, Anthony Perkins and directed by American genius Orson Welles. While Welles' *Citizen Kane* is consistently declared the greatest film of all time, and *Touch of Evil* is almost equally as good, *The Trial* is easily within their league. This disturbing tale of a man brought to trial (for what, neither he nor the audience ever discover) is a frightening exploration into how a man accused begins to believe in his guilt. Paranoia, hallucination and a bureaucracy out of control emphasize Welles' Orwellian take on Kafka.

However, if you actually want to watch a few films to take your mind off the law completely in the upcoming months I would suggest to you:

1. **Topkapi** An amazing 1960s romp of a film. Five thieves get together in Istanbul to steal an emerald encrusted dagger from the Topkapi Museum. The action is unstoppable, the tension ever mounting, the acting amazing (especially with Melina Mercouri - possessor of the sexiest voice ever heard on screen - and Peter Ustinov as a bumbler to end all bumblers), the setting is magical, and the direction by Jules Dassin is flawless.

2. **Brazil** Terry Gilliam of Monty Python takes on Orwell in this surrealistic vision of blended fantasy and reality in a Bureaucratic Totalitarian Nightmare State of the future. A dead fly falls into a typewriter causes a name to be printed as Buttles instead of Tuttle. Thus begins the end. Buttles is arrested instead of Tuttle and lives crumble. The sets are magnificent and the dialogue is reminiscent of Stoppard.

3. **Annie Hall** The film that beat out Star Wars for Best Picture in 1977 is one of the most amazing comedies ever written. Woody Allen is remarkable in his tale that moves back and forth through time revolving around his relationship with one woman played by Diane Keaton. Animation, subtitles, Max Orpuls, Marshall McLuhan, anti-Semitism, cocaine, marijuana, frigidity, therapy, and a New York-Los Angeles hatred collide to produce more memorable dialogue than ever found before in one film.
4. **Raiders of the Lost Ark** I realize that some of the students here were only recently born when Raiders came out, so I don't want to assume you've all seen it. It still stands up as one of my all time favourite action films. A never ending thrill ride across continents with healthy doses of Nazis, spiritualism, good-vs.-evil, tough-talking women, and above all snakes, Raiders can't be beat when it comes to sheer entertainment.
5. **Videodrome** My only Canadian film is by David Cronenberg and starring James Woods as a sleazy television channel owner in Toronto. He stumbles upon a pirate broadcast (from Malaysia he believes) showing torture and pain non-stop. He can't help but watch and is eventually hooked on the show with Deborah Harry (of Blondie), a masochist in her own right. Soon however, things start to go wrong as the "video word is made flesh". Cronenberg's film examines his consistent themes of the integration of man and machine, the exploration of sexuality through technology, and the transformation of flesh. Weird and wonderful.
6. **Baraka** This documentary is a must see for anyone who has a travel itch. Once you've seen it though, that itch will be even more pronounced. A visual essay through cultures and lands across the globe accompanied by a score from Philip Glass, we go on a journey through man's spirituality. At once an essay on our parallels with the animal kingdom and an exploration into our artificial existence, Baraka, photographed in 24 countries, won BEST PICTURE (International Film Critics Jury Award) at the Montreal Film Festival.
7. **Brainstorm** Everyone's favourite weirdo Christopher Walken creates the ultimate virtual reality program. He can record other people's thoughts, senses and emotions and then play them back to other people. The result is an extraordinary visual delight. However, not everyone shares the Walken's benevolent vision for this technology. A little terrorism anyone?
8. **A Clockwork Orange** This film is still banned in Britain even after Kubrick's death. The chilling rape of a woman to the tune of "Singing in the Rain" was copycatted, after which Kubrick refused to allow any more theatres in Britain run the film. The rape is not the only disturbing moment however. Nor is that the only rape involved. The rehabilitation is just as horrifying. Alex gets out of prison by undergoing a pavlovian therapy. An odd mix of ultra-violence, correction, deception, politics and Beethoven, this is the film of the 1970s.

And that completes my recipe for avoiding the books at all costs.

Question Man

a poem by Dean "no rhyming necessary" Taylor

Oh question man, why must you crush me...under your blatant banality?
 Your voice, from classroom front, slows time and steals hours from
 my life
 and lurches from query to query to query
 Your questions help no one, you desire to hear your own voice
 Why must you ask and ask and ask
 No one cares.
 (At least you could raise your hand first).

Oh question man, you come in so many forms, sometimes
 Tall, or short, stocky, big-headed, well-dressed, or not,
 loud voice or West Island accent, but almost never female
 and almost never appreciated.

Oh question man, in high school we could have stolen your lunch money
 and flushed your head in the toilet.
 But now, I can only ask a question of you:
 Oh question man, why do you crush me?

le 21 novembre 2000

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Paper Maché Chase

Lawna Hurl Law II

Let me set the scene. At my one and only law firm interview this year, attended only because the gentlemen was a friend of my father's, I had one of the best law related conversations ever. Topics ranged from whether McGill is really the hardest marking school and whether Bus Ass is a required course for firms and what the hell does it really mean when they say someone 'thinks like a lawyer'. After an enjoyable hour of poking fun at myths and stereotypes I was told that I really should watch *Paperchase*. And although I don't make a habit of following entertainment advice from authority figures, I managed to track down a copy of the 1973 classic.

In the opening scene, a first year Harvard contracts law class takes their assigned seats. Professor Kingsfield, played by John Houseman, berates, bullies and terrifies the students by randomly picking on them to recite facts or to spew in depth legal analysis. On the first day our main character, Hart, actually loses his lunch after a tongue lashing from Kingsfield.

There is a lot of focus on grades, competition and general A-type personality assholishness. There is the requisite suicide attempt from a character with a photographic memory but apparently no mental ability beyond that. The six person study group established at the beginning of the semester is down to three by the end mostly because some people don't like to share their hard work with those not deserving.

Hart takes on an interesting fascination with Kingsfield and goes so far as to sneak into the library to read his professor's first year contract notes only to realize that they are much similar to his own. By the end of the movie we also have the predictable scene where Hart stands up to Kingsfield in front of the whole class and is rewarded for his courage.

The movie had pathetic female characters, none of whom were actually in law school. Lindsay Wagner plays Kingsfield's daughter and she is quite silly. I also forgot how bad fashion was in the 70s, especially the hair.

Yet by far the most interesting story line was about grades. From the very beginning everyone knows and everyone is talking about the make it or break it grade. One difference being that the professor knew your name so it was a huge deal to participate thoughtfully in class.

"They are just grades, Kevin."
"You know better than that."

In the final scene, our main character takes the envelope which contains his grades and makes a paper airplane and sends it off into the ocean. This I liked.

In all honesty when I came to McGill I suspected it to be more like *Paperchase*. I wasn't expecting professors to be so indulgent to questions from students who obviously hadn't read the material or who were most obviously just wanting to hear themselves speak. When Professor Jutras was trying to identify us by our picture alone it was kind of comical and not intimidating. I am not complaining though. I don't think I would have remained in a law school if I had been in Kingsfield's class. I will take Stephen Smith over Kingsfield any day, if only to hear him talk about his *minority* views.

At this point in my illustrious law career (and when I say illustrious I do mean satisfactory standing) I cannot imagine letting suits and grades rule my life. The evening of my one and only law firm interview a group of McGillites all went out to dinner with 'the firm guy'. Everyone dressed up but me and they talked about articling and firm size. I was in cargo pants and a crappy sweater as I had to leave for another engagement before dinner ended. I am not saying anything negative about my fellow students here; they are far wiser than I. However, when I got up to leave the 'big bad firm guy' got up shook my hand and told me that I was on the right track. It was only until I got out onto Crescent street that I started to think about that. Right track? I would rather eat my own young than step inside a firm. I have absolutely no idea when, where or how one goes about articling. I haven't checked my grades since the middle of the first year. I don't know what I got on my Remedies midterm or my Methodology paper. My father checked my first year marks to make sure I didn't fail anything. I was caught off guard during verification week as I didn't know I would be faced with a transcript so I did catch a glimpse of my GPA and a few marks before I remembered why I don't check my marks. Right track indeed. My first two months at McGill I think I fell into the *Paperchase* trap and there were only two ways for me to go: Mexico with my dear friend Mark who dropped out after first year with an amazing GPA OR treating law school as important but not all-encompassing. I don't think like a lawyer and I don't care about clerkships and summer firm jobs in New York. I will probably finish the degree just so I can get all those letters after my name but I am not going to let what I do now determine what I may be doing in five years.

As for the movie, if it happens to be on TV one night, check it out. Otherwise I found other law movies far more intriguing. Keanu Reeves as a lawyer in the *Devil's Advocate* cracked me up. In *Rounders*, law student Matt Damon borrowed \$10,000 from a prof. Excuse me, Professor Swan do you have a moment? I think my favourite entertainment lawyer has to be Miranda Hobbes of *Sex in the City*. If you don't know who this is I think you should prepare better before coming to class.

Taylor's Top Ten

Dean Taylor Nat IV

So I'm no critic. Okay, I am a critic, I just don't get paid for it. I don't even see that many movies, which might explain the last few selections in this Top Ten. If I hadn't seen number ten on the list, I would've had to pick *Jury Duty* with Pauley Shore or that gawd-awful Demi Moore/Alec Baldwin fiasco *The Juror*. But the Quid was looking for Law Movies...and if you're looking for some law movies, I recommend these. Well, some of these. It was a struggle to get to ten.

My Top Ten Legal Movies of All Time (As seen by me, with reasons by me.)

10. *My Cousin Vinny*

My predictions of a big Ralph Machio comeback were way off, but this is worth it just to see Marisa Tomei talk about cars. Whoo hoo!

9. *The Firm*

Wilford Brimley as the kick-ass security guy? Brilliant! Good chase scene. The only Grisham I've ever seen.

8. *A Few Good Men*

A second Tom Cruise movie? This one is all about Jack Nicholson. Look for ultra nasty turn by Kiefer Sutherland and a fresh faced Noah Wylie (Carter on ER)

7. *Body of Evidence*

Just seeing if you're paying attention. This one destroyed Willem Defoe's career. "Acting" with Madonna will do that. This movie sucks.

6. *Judgment at Nuremberg*

Okay, I've never actually seen this, but Jane tells me it is amazing. And I trust her. Apparently it features a young William Shatner.

5. *Philadelphia*

Tom Hanks *deserved* this Oscar, and Springsteen wrote one of the best title songs ever to go with it.

4. *The Paper Chase*

John Houseman at his most evil, before those E.F. Hutton commercials. If I had seen this before I got to law school, I never would have come in the first place.

3. *Bar Wars*

Okay, slightly biased because I'm in it. But brilliant performances by Aaron Dantowitz and Luke Carsley make the funny Star Wars send-up work. Hafeez Khan steals every scene he's in.

2. *Inherit the Wind*

C'mon. Scopes Monkey Trial. Spencer Tracy is brilliant and this movie is a classic.

1. *To Kill a Mockingbird*

Not only is this a great book (by Harper Lee), it made a remarkable movie. Gregory Peck is dazzling as lawyer Atticus Finch. Robert Duvall makes his screen debut as Boo Radley. This movie was ranked 34th on the 100 best films of all time, so I'm not the only one who liked it. An absolute masterpiece.

Enviro - CoffeeHouse!

(Where everything is recycled but the beer!)

To see and do:

1. Drink cheap beer
2. Learn more about environmental stuff
3. Drink more cheap beer with your buds
4. Watch "A Civil Action", Hollywood's version of Environmental Law
5. Answer some ecotrivia for fun, or prizes if we can find some...

Specials

Beer if you use any reusable mug
And Sangria too for a couple bones...

November 23, 2000

16:30 - 19:00

Now go save a whale or something!

United States à la Carte

Tastes of America Not Discussed in Law School

Chef J.D.V. (comme dans 'joie de vivre') BCL III

Notre Chef cuisinier est lassé de toujours goûter les mêmes hors-d'oeuvres. Ces amuse-gueules, servis hebdomadairement dans le Quid, ne lui titillent plus le palais, sentent le réchauffé, et sont empreints d'une saveur typiquement McGilloise: on se plaint, se plaît, se complait, à réduire le bouillon américain aux deux mêmes ingrédients de base: *ABA accreditation* et les jeunes Canadiens à New York. Or, il semble au Chef que nos voisins du sud offrent, à qui veut bien goûter, une soupe fort intéressante et ce, hors de la sphère juridique.

En bon Français, le Chef croit bien évidemment que la vraie vie passe par la bonne bouffe et l'exploration des sens. Il faut un esprit aventurier et ouvert pour être un réel *aficionado* de la cuisine exotique. La bouffe, si riche soit-elle, quand elle ne fait que nourrir les angoisses arrivistes ou révoltées de nos chers étudiants, est nocive pour la santé (lire l'étiquette).

Alors donc, J.D.V. a dépoussiéré ses meilleures recettes, tirées de différents recoins de l'Amérique profonde. Notre Chef, en dehors de toute poursuite de carrière juridique, a eu la chance de recueillir quelques mets américains savoureux qu'il veut bien partager avec vous (un fait rare pour un chef français). Parfois aigres, parfois douces, les saveurs découvertes ont une profondeur et une variété qui surprennent et nous invitent à prendre une deuxième portion.

Cessez de penser aux calories, à votre tailleur exécutif qui ne vous fera plus à la taille, à votre avenir cardiaque, hépatique et juridique; allez, savourez... la vie est belle, la bouffe est bonne. Le seul but de *United States à la Carte* est de vous divertir entre deux cours et de vous montrer que les États-Unis, ça n'a pas besoin d'être un fruit si stressant à avaler et à apprécier.

PREMIÈRE RECETTE: fin de journée réussie à GALVESTON, TEXAS.

Tout d'abord, vous serez bien plus satisfait de votre expérience gastronomique assis sur une moto (un ingrédient qui reviendra souvent dans les recettes de J.D.V.). En effet, la moto, par l'exposition aux éléments qu'elle permet à son passager, fait ouvrir les pores de la peau pour une meilleure absorption des molécules délicieuses qui flottent dans l'air.

Ensuite, il faut comprendre qu'à Galveston au mois de mai, le seul mode de cuisson est le bain-marie. Cependant, au cours de la journée et de la soirée, la température du four varie, culminant dans les 85 degrés (Fahrenheit) pour retomber le soir autour des 65 degrés, ce qui est très agréable. La grosse casserole d'eau salée (le Golfe du Mexique) permet de mijoter dans la tempérance.

En descendant du traversier qui relie à toutes les demi-heures la Louisiane au Texas, le Chef a en tête de manger des côtes-levées pour dîner, car il voit une petite bicoque sur le bord de l'autoroute qui arbore fièrement l'enseigne: "Bar-B-Que Barn, Winnie, Texas". Ummm ribs... Mais en fait, il n'est que trois heures de l'après-midi, et J.V.D. a déjeuné au Denny's vers 11 heures, alors il n'a pas encore faim. Il est à noter qu'il va contre l'éthique de la profession de dégustateur et cuisinier hédoniste de manger dans des restaurants de chaîne. En effet, l'Amérique, celle qui goûte l'exotisme vrai, se trouve dans les petits "mom and pop diners". Il faut pardonner au Chef cet écart, mais l'appétit se faisant parfois pressant et la chair étant faible, il a été au plus rapide ce matin. D'ailleurs, le Chef lui-même ne condamne pas les écarts: ils rendent la vie plus imprévisible et font apprécier d'autant plus les bons repas enrichissants (aux États-Unis, c'est le cas de le dire).

continued on page 14

le 21 novembre 2000

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Student(s) for a Friendlier Law School

Joëlle Rudick, LAW II

I hate Law School. I contemplated dropping out but for some reason I'm still here. (Intellectual snobism perhaps.) I like the professors, it's the material they teach I'm not passionate about. But there's something else. Je ne sais quoi.

McGill Law School is both famous and infamous. On the one hand it has a phenomenal international academic reputation. On the other hand it is notorious for its competitive (and dare-I say back-stabbing) atmosphere. Crucial books go missing during exam periods. Students race to the library the minute a take home exam is distributed, and then gloat at the fact that they took out all the books on the subject before anyone else. Law partners hand out part summaries (if anything at all), and sometimes ask their law partners not to share any of the material. I'm not even going to get into interviews and rank!

It's time people stop feeling threatened by their classmates. It's time third years stop encouraging second years to graduate in four years lest we all enter the job market in the same year. It's time people stop covering their notes in class.

Harvard Law School has moved to a pass/fail grading system for many of their courses, in part to create a more pleasant and collaborative law school environment. (They're also ABA accredited, but that's a whole other article!) Is it still a competitive atmosphere? Yes. But at least they are taking steps to foster a more student-friendly law school.

What can we do to combat this problem that so many of us feel exists? To answer this question I'll share a personal anecdote. Thursday night I was in the library photocopying an article for a paper I am writing. Due to my photocopying deficiencies, I accidentally cut off the last letter of each line on one side of the page. Crazy anal nerd that I am (Crazy anal nerds in law school!? Who would have thought!), I decided to re-photocopy the article. Just as I was about to throw out my \$0.77 of photocopied material, I realized that maybe not everyone is as crazy as me and perhaps someone would appreciate saving time and money by finding the article, already photocopied. I folded the article, put it in the book (which I later reshelved in its proper place), and wrote a short note which I signed, "Student(s) for a Friendlier Law School."

Sometimes a page comes out too dark for your liking. Sometimes you accidentally photocopy two of the same page when you only need one. Instead of throwing these pages out, neatly fold them, place them with the pages they correspond to in the book, and sign it "Student(s) for a Friendlier Law School." It's the little things. We can all make this school a more enjoyable place, and we don't need meetings or funding to do it.

Hmm . . .

I'd like to think that I hate law school more than anyone else here. Although it's good to know I'm not alone. Below is what a friend gave to me while I was contemplating dropping out this summer. Apparently it is a speech given to the Yale Graduating Class this summer by Larry Ellison, the second richest man on the planet.
Lawna

"Graduates of Yale University, I apologise if you have endured this type of prologue before, but I want you to do something for me. Please, take a good look around you. Look at the classmate on your left. Look at the classmate on your right. Now consider this: five years from now, 10 years from now, even 30 years from now, odds are the person on your left is going to be a loser. The person on your right, meanwhile will also be a loser. And you, in the middle? What can you expect? Loser. Loserhood. Loser Cum Laude. In fact, as I look out before me today, I don't see a thousand hopes for a bright tomorrow. I don't see a thousand future leaders in a thousand industries. I see a thousand losers.

You're upset. That's understandable. After all, how can I, Lawrence 'Larry' Ellison, second richest man on the planet --for now anyway -- is a college dropout, and you are not. Because Bill Gates, the richest man on the planet -- for now anyway -- is a college dropout and you are not. Because Paul Allen, the third richest man on the planet, dropped out of college and you did not. And for good measure because Michael Dell, No. 9 on the list and moving up fast, is a college dropout and you, yet again are not.

Hmm...you're very upset. That's understandable. so let me stroke your egos for a moment by pointing out, quite sincerely, that your diplomas were not attained in vain. Most of you, I imagine, have spent four to five years here, and in many ways what you've learned and endured will serve you well in the years ahead. You've established good work habits. You've established a network of people that will help you down the road. And you've established what will be lifelong relationships with the word 'therapy'. All that of is good. For in truth, you will need that network. You will need them because you didn't drop out, and so you will never be among the richest people in the world. Oh sure, you may, perhaps, work your way up to No. 10 or No. 11, like Steve Ballmer. But then, I don't have to tell you who he really works for, do I? And for the record, he dropped out of grad school. Bit of a late bloomer.

Finally, I realise that many of you, and hopefully most of you, are wondering, 'Is there anything I can do? Is there any hope for me at all?' Actually, no. It's too late. You've absorbed too much, think you know too much. You're not 19 anymore. You have a built-in cap, and I'm not referring to the mortar boards on your heads.

Hmm... you're really very upset. That's understandable. So perhaps this would be a good time to bring up the silver lining. Not for you, Class of 2000. You are write-off, so I'll let you slink off to your pathetic \$200,000-a-year jobs, where your checks will be signed by former classmates who dropped out two years ago. Instead, I want to give hope to any underclassmen here today. I say to you, and I can't stress this enough: leave. pack your things and your ideas and don't come back. Drop out. Start up. For I can tell you that a cap and gown will keep you down just as surely as these surely as these security guards dragging me off this stage are keeping me down....."

CURRICULUM CORNER

Megan Stephens VP Academic

I have had several students approach me recently to ask about the summer clerkships for credits offered through the Faculty of Law. Last year, the Faculty decided to do a "pilot" study of the feasibility of extending the clerkships programme to the summer session. Almost everyone agreed that this would be wonderful in principle in that it would give students in the new programme yet another way to earn credits during the summer months so they can finish their degree requirements in 3 years.

Well, unfortunately, it seems as though the Quebec court system is not all that ready to accommodate the keeners at McGill! Despite Professor Jobin's efforts, there appears to currently be only one position available for summer clerkships this year. The main problem is that the courts do not tend to sit in the months of June, July and August. Although some thought was given to having students clerk full time in the courts in May to fulfill the clerkship requirements, the judges were reluctant to agree to this since most of the files in May are old cases held over from earlier in the year.

All this to say, if you have been planning your summer around doing a clerkship for credit, you should probably think about revising your plans since the possibilities of doing so will be incredibly limited. Remember though, you can apply to get credits for working in the legal information clinic this summer if you have volunteered there for 2 terms.

If you have any other academic-like questions, feel free to let me know!

An Open Letter to Ms. Whiting

I congratulate Ms. Whiting on the courage her recent article displayed. It is no easy task to argue against freedom and opportunity, particularly when she herself has benefited from that very same freedom and opportunity she would deny others. I regret, however, that her article does not display the same judgment that earned her a position at a prestigious New York firm.

Ms Whiting catalogs several alternatives individuals can pursue if the Faculty does not seek ABA Accreditation. It is precisely to alleviate these onerous requirements that the Faculty is interested in ABA Accreditation. With all due respect, she misses the forest for the trees. She argues that the ABA Accreditation will require McGill to make curricular changes. On our first perusal of the regulations, we on the ABA Accreditation Committee concluded that the ABA does not impose ANY course requirements on its member law schools. She states that students should inspect these rules for themselves. I agree. Practice what you preach, Ms Whiting. Further, she writes that the Faculty should invest in library and other facilities rather than seek ABA Accreditation. These two forms of investment are not mutually exclusive but mutually dependent. The financial benefits of ABA Accreditation create the means to expanding the library, improving facilities, and broadening the course offering. ABA Accreditation will enable McGill to attract the funds necessary to realize those projects.

In her final paragraph, she states "it is unfortunate that our student representatives on the ABA Accreditation committee have not yet provided us with a more detailed report..." Eric Gilman and I are the student representatives on that committee. We met with Profs. Toupe and Premont for the first time on Thursday, November 9th. The process of studying the requirements for and implications of ABA Accreditation is underway. While I sympathize with Ms Whiting's impatience, we expect the process to take some time. We on the ABA Accreditation Committee value thorough research and, as a consequence, cannot provide instantaneous results.

Joe Mik, Law II

Brief Remarks and the JD at University of Toronto Way Ahead of McGill?

Tammy Akerman BCL III

Last week I wrote an article about ABA accreditation and about how important it is for current students and graduates of McGill Law for the school to obtain approval. I was happy to hear from a lot of people via e-mail and from others who approached me that they agreed or that they hadn't realized what an impact it would make for them.

What I didn't know when I wrote my article last week was how much controversy surrounds ABA accreditation. I was on exchange last year and I had no idea what went on in the faculty over the course of last term in terms of ABA accreditation. Accreditation was something I stumbled across over the summer when I discovered my problems with the California bar. After my article appeared in the *Quid* last week, I received some e-mails from a few students who updated me on all the events that transpired last year and it seems this is something that has been talked about quite a lot. So to that extent I will keep my remarks brief.

The point of this article is not to revisit my view on ABA which I think it is fairly clear. But I would like to thank Karen Whiting for writing an article that re-enforces my point about ABA accreditation more so than ever. Ms. Whiting has found "...that McGill students are not in any way restricted in their access to a variety of jurisdictions...". True. But the reference of restriction is to Canadian jurisdictions, a few European and only 10 out of the 50 states. In a more global sense, how is this not restriction as far as the international arena is concerned? McGill students are not permitted to sit for 40 State Bars when they graduate and I am not talking about states like Oklahoma that she mentions, but states like Arizona with which McGill has a formal exchange program, or Texas, Florida, California to name a few of the more popular states. By not being accredited, McGill only limits the opportunity to students and boasts an international program that can only be described as limited. All Ms. Whiting did was tell all of us something we already knew and she did it while hiding behind Canadian employment opportunity to make up for the lack of international opportunity. I also believe there is not a lack of opportunity at McGill—except if we are including work opportunity in the U.S. I witnessed the massive stack of resumes to NY law firms that students submitted this fall and I have a hard time believing that students are that eager to pursue the Canadian market.

I also thought I would quickly address Ms. Whiting's strategies to pursue employment in the states to which students cannot currently write the state bars:

1. Petition state bars: an ugly feat as I am witnessing first hand, and not likely to be successful.
2. Pursue a J.D. in the U.S.: I certainly hope that after 3 years of law school at McGill (4 years for a lot of you) she is not suggesting that I spend another 3 years obtaining a U.S. degree with accumulated debt upwards of \$100,000!
3. Obtain an LL.M: There are only a few states that will let students write the bar with a McGill degree (non-ABA) followed by an LL.M. So this solution does not address the problem.
4. Practice in a state that allows non-ABA students to practice: A solution to those who are willing to compromise working in the state of their choice and work in another state for anywhere from 5-10 years before the state they really want to work in lets them sit for the bar. This is currently the situation and not a strategy to ameliorate the situation
5. Practice in a Canadian Province: Same comments as to #4 only worse because Canadian provinces have something called "articling".

I picked up last week's *Quid* when I went into class to sit down. There was a copy lying on the seat that I chose. Interestingly enough, it was opened at Karen Whiting's article and two comments were written on it, both of which I want to address. The first was: "We are still in Canada and some people want a Canadian curriculum so that they can be effective lawyers in Canada." To this student I would like to say, contrary to Ms. Whiting's comments, that the Canadian curriculum you are receiving would not be changed with accreditation. Unless I have missed something, there is nothing I have read in the ABA Accreditation rules that indicates that post-accreditation McGill would need to change its curriculum and offer U.S. classes.

The second student who wrote a comment on the article circled my name that appeared in Ms. Whiting's article, drew a line to the margins and had this to say: "whiny little b___ can't go to CA therefore the entire school should change." To this student I have this to say: I am opinionated and I certainly hope that you can respect that. Personally attacking me and laying judgement doesn't really address your resentment to accreditation. But let me point out a few facts for you since you were quick to jump to conclusions: my reasons for wanting McGill to obtain accreditation are not purely selfish and I don't really need it. I am petitioning the California bar for permission to sit even though I lack certain requirements. And if that doesn't work, then the firm

continued on the next page

that I am working for next September has informed me that they will allow me to write the NY bar this summer and then they will give me 2 months off the following Jan-Feb 2002 to write the CA bar. So I am not really stuck and accreditation is not my only solution. Regardless of whether or not McGill obtains accreditation I am still going to graduate in June and I am still going to work in Los Angeles next September. I just think accreditation is a good move for the Faculty and for students who are looking to expand their horizons beyond New York and Boston. In fact, when a school becomes accredited, only students who are currently enrolled or who have graduated within the last 12 months can claim the benefits from accreditation as far as eligibility to write different state bars is concerned. My understanding is that even if accreditation is agreed upon by the Committee it won't be put into place for years to come and at that time, I will have long since graduated and been working so it won't even affect me.

The more important issue that I wanted to raise this week is about University of Toronto's new J.D. degree. I read an article by John Richardson, B.A., LL.B., J.D. (who offers the Prep course Richardson- similar to Kaplans) about the new University of Toronto program. Now students at U of T can choose to receive a J.D. (Law degree awarded in the U.S.) or an LL.B. While this J.D. does not come with the ABA accreditation seal of approval, U of T is now one step closer in that direction leaving McGill that much farther behind.

The J.D. at U of T is a fantastic tool with which to attract U.S. employers, for it is a degree that they recognize as their own. Employers may very well be more interested in recruiting at a school that offers a comparable degree to the one awarded in the U.S. (which their lawyers received). And for all those of you who are opposed to ABA accreditation on patriotic grounds, the LL.B at U of T is still available.

I'm sure my opinion is well known so I will leave you to draw your own conclusions from the article. It can be found at www.prep.com.

An article about this may be found in the U. of T. Ultra Vires at: http://www.law.utoronto.ca/ultravires/news_03.htm

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Le goût n'est pas le seul sens rassasié au sud du Texas, la vue, elle aussi, trouve son festin. Enfin, on voit la mer, grise, verte, mouvementée. Il faut dire qu'il fait gris et qu'il vente beaucoup. Le Chef lève la visière de son casque et hume. Oui, vraiment, il y a du sel marin dans l'air (à l'épicerie, ça coûte plus cher qu'au Texas).

Les maisons qui longent la mer ressemblent à des champignons. Eh non, notre Chef n'hallucine pas! D'immenses baraques sont juchées sur des pilotis de 4 mètres de haut! Le Chef se pose brièvement la question: meuble ou immeuble? Mais se ravise aussitôt: who cares?! Il est vrai que les aléas de la nature frappent durement ce coin de pays. Les ouragans et raz-de-marée sont assez fréquents pour justifier de vivre dans les airs et de voir toutes les semaines la mer balayer son bac de recyclage. Assez "space" comme concept.

from Caaaaaanada on that thin'? » ». Son hospitalité est typique des Texans, sinon des employés de stations d'essence... On entend toujours la mer qui murmure.

Finalement l'heure de la cerise sur le sundae: l'assouvissement du dernier sens et non le moindre, le goût! J.D.V. entre dans le restaurant choisi: néons roses et longues banquettes. Le décor fait très années 80, mais est trendy tout de même. Le Chef se glisse sur la banquette et commande un thé glacé à la serveuse, craquante elle aussi et bien en chair. Délibérés quant au choix du repas: ribs succulentes? Non, car elles sont plutôt la spécialité de la Louisiane. Au Texas, quel est le plat typique? Ummm notre Chef est bien embêté. Bon, allons-y pour une pizza hawaïenne!

Après dîner, J.D.V. fait un détour par le (méga)supermarché et achète un pot de 2 litres de crème glacée (saveur kétaine: caramel écossais ou Oreo...). De retour au terrain de camping, il la déguste

La nuit est assez traumatisante car le vent souffle et fait battre les rabats de la tente.

Arrivé à Galveston même, les quais commencent à défiler. La route qui longe la plage est bordée de longs quais de divertissement: quai du casino, quai du cirque, quai du magasin-souvenirs, quai du restaurant. Il ne manque que le quai du "shooting range". Le Chef repère un petit restaurant, style Earl's (zut, une autre chaîne!) qui pourrait être intéressant, l'heure du dîner venue (il faut garder en tête son estomac!).

Le Chef voudrait se reposer un peu. Tant de *miles* ont défilé sous ses yeux que ses sens sont surexcités. Il trouve le site de rêve: un terrain de camping directement sur la plage. Le vent est tellement fort que J.D.V. a du mal à monter sa tente. Après avoir enlevé son manteau de cuir, le Chef sent le vent humide et salé qui lui colle à la peau. On sent les algues, le sel, l'huile à moteur qui a coulé de la moto. Il se met à pleuvoir, qu'importe! J.V.D. se met à danser dans les herbes folles et s'ouvre ainsi l'appétit de façon légitime, même s'il n'est que 5 heures.

De retour en ville, l'ouïe est l'avant-dernier sens à se joindre au bal. L'accent texan du jeune homme à la station-service est craquant: « Y'came aaaaall the way

tranquillement sur sa table de pique-nique. Il fait noir, il vente, l'air est frais. ça sent bon et on entend les vagues déferler sur le sable. Quel instant délicieux.

La nuit est assez traumatisante car le vent souffle et fait battre les rabats de la tente. Le Chef fait des cauchemars où il est emporté par le vent et la mer; la crème glacée avalée de façon gargantuesque n'est pas très loin.

Aux aurores, rien de tel pour se réveiller et partir la journée du bon pied qu'une bonne baignade en mer. Le Chef se sent comme une poche de thé: il se balance tranquillement et fait des tourbillons (involontaires mais combien agréables!) dans l'eau tiède et puissante. L'heure du petit-déjeuner arrive inlassable et fidèle, comme la marée. Notre Chef n'a même pas le temps de conscientiser cette belle image qu'il est rassasié: il avale une grande gorgée d'eau salée! Quel délice...

Bon appétit! Laissez-vous tenter: l'aventure par les sens se trouve partout!

Envoyez-moi vos recettes (de bonheur) à ali_usa@hotmail.com.

La prochaine fois à *United States à la Carte*: Death Valley, Californie.

LSA COLLECTE DE NOËL / FOOD & CLOTHES DRIVE

From November 16 to December 16 Bring your donation to the LSA office

Hé oui, la période des Fêtes arrive à grands pas. Les toutes dernières feuilles de l'automne disparaîtront sous peu lorsqu'elles seront couvertes par cette fameuse neige qui, sans l'ombre d'un doute, fera la joie de tous!!! Ainsi, comme à chaque année, il faudra dépoussiérer nos tuques, chandails de laine, bref toute l'armature nécessaire pour affronter les rudes hivers de chez nous.

This year again, the LSA would like to make a special suggestion: when you take out your winter clothes, take a few moments to put aside the clothes that no longer suit you or that you would like to get rid of. Put them in a bag, add some non-perishable food items, and bring the whole thing to the LSA before December 16.

Pourquoi prendre tout ce temps me direz-vous? Voici quelques arguments qui devraient vous convaincre:

1. *Pour l'honneur. À chaque année, la collecte de Noël prend la forme d'une compétition. En effet, afin de rendre la collecte de Noël plus attrayante, nous organisons une compétition qui met aux prises non seulement les quatre années et les étudiant(e)s gradué(e)s, mais également le groupe composé des professeurs et des membres du personnel. Le fonctionnement du concours est très simple: vous amenez au LSA (local situé au sous-sol) vêtements, nourriture non-périssable, jeux ou tout autre effet que vous pourriez donner à une personne dans le besoin. Ensuite, nous comptons le nombre d'articles que vous avez généreusement accepté de donner et nous inscrivons le résultat dans la colonne de votre année. Veuillez noter que le décompte se fera de la manière suivante: 1 point par article (ex: si vous amenez 1 manteau, 1 canne de conserve, 1 paire de bas et 1 jeu de Risk, vous marquez 4 points et vous êtes alors très satisfait).*
2. *To put in a little order in your life. What a brilliant idea! There is never the time to do the big clean-up of things we no longer need. We are suggesting, therefore, that you do your spring cleaning a little early this year (because who has time to do it when it's actually springtime?). If you still live with your parents, here's the perfect opportunity to thrill your mom by freeing your closet of all those old clothes she doesn't like. And this can't help but work in your favour when she's buying your Christmas gifts...*
3. *Pour venir en aide aux personnes dans le besoin. Voici le dernier, mais non le moindre, de nos arguments. Il est vrai que nous sommes sollicités régulièrement par divers organismes de charité. Toutefois, si ces organismes sont si actifs dans leur collecte, c'est sans doute parce que la demande provenant de personnes dans le besoin ne cesse de croître. Nous vous proposons donc, par l'intermédiaire d'une compétition amicale et divertissante, de poser un geste concret et direct afin d'aider ceux et celles qui n'ont pas eu la même chance que nous. En donnant vos vêtements usagés et de la nourriture, vous permettez à des milliers de gens de passer des fêtes des plus agréables. En effet, le soir du 31 décembre, le champagne ne sera pas à l'honneur dans toutes les familles...*

Finally, it should be noted that Fourth year and Graduate students that are now doing their Bar are the defending champion of this competition, amassing more than 190 points in last year's competition. The grand total of last year's food and clothes drive is 557 items and all the items were distributed to Sun Youth:

•	Fourth year & Graduate Students193 items
•	Second year139 items
•	Third year138 items
•	First year66 items
•	Professors & Administration21 items

En résumé, nous vous proposons un moyen simple et amusant (si nous pouvons le qualifier ainsi) de venir en aide aux plus démunis en leur fournissant des vêtements et de la nourriture pour le temps des Fêtes. Vous n'avez qu'à amener vos articles au local du LSA (les professeurs pourront déposer leurs dons dans une boîte située dans le salon des professeurs) et vos dévoués serviteurs se feront un plaisir d'inscrire les points que vous aurez marqués. En passant, un gros merci à tous ceux et celles qui nous donnent un coup de main...

Good luck et merci de votre participation!

*Pierre-Etienne Simard Vice-president public relations
vpapr@lsa.lan.mcgill.ca*

le 21 novembre 2000

N

ANNIE MACDONALD LANGSTAFF

UPHILL ALL THE WAY:

THE STRUGGLE TO UNITE WOMEN'S RIGHTS TO LAND,
PROPERTY AND INHERITANCE, AND THE RIGHT TO HOUSING

Ariane Brunet

Coordinator, Women's Rights Program, RIGHTS & DEMOCRACY

Leilani Farha

Women's Program Coordinator, Centre on Housing Rights & Evictions

NOV. 23 @ 4 PM
ROOM 202 NCDH

En avril 2000, la Commission des droits de l'homme des Nations Unies a reconnu, par le biais d'une résolution, l'égalité des femmes en matière de droit à la propriété, de droit à la terre et au contrôle sur la terre, et de droit à un logement convenable.

As participants in the U.N. process, the speakers will discuss the significance and impact of this resolution on the promotion and protection of women's international human rights.

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